



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 6:45 a.m. EST (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Monday - July 2, 2001

- ***In the West***, the latest in a series of early-season heat waves is gripping the region, bringing renewed irrigation and electrical demands. Today's high temperatures are forecast to range from 90 degrees F in wheat areas of the ***Pacific Northwest*** to as high as 115 degrees F in the ***Desert Southwest***.
- ***On the Plains***, beneficial showers are returning to ***Montana***, where long-term drought continues to adversely affect some pastures and small grains. Meanwhile, warm, mostly dry weather continues to reduce soil moisture for summer crops on the ***southern High Plains***. In contrast, showers are developing on the ***east-central Plains***, including parts of ***Missouri and eastern Kansas***, where heavy June rainfall caused planting delays and left fields unfavorably wet.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, mild weather and favorable soil moisture levels are promoting corn and soybean development. Winter wheat harvesting continues in the ***Ohio Valley***.
- ***In the South***, locally heavy showers are spreading inland along the ***Gulf Coast***, providing additional relief from long-term drought. Elsewhere in the region, scattered showers favor pastures and reproductive summer crops, including corn and cotton.

Outlook: Hot, mostly dry weather is forecast to continue this week in the ***West***. In contrast, cooler-than-normal weather is expected in the ***Corn Belt***. Only isolated showers are forecast in the ***Plains and Corn Belt***, but heavy showers are likely in the ***Gulf Coast and southern Atlantic regions***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for July 7-11 calls for hot weather in the ***northern Plains and Northwest***, but near- to below-normal temperatures elsewhere. Significant rainfall is forecast nearly nationwide, with the heaviest amounts expected across the ***central Plains, interior South, and New England***.

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